

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended): A system for transmitting messages from a client messaging application to a third party application, the system comprising:

an interface to a plurality of mutually registered client messaging applications, wherein the interface is mutually registered with at least one of the plurality of client messaging applications; and

a first application for performing the steps of:

connecting with the interface, ~~wherein the interface provides portability between the plurality of client messaging applications and the first application;~~

receiving a message from ~~[[a]]~~ the at least one of the plurality of client messaging application applications via the interface;

determining the destination of the message, wherein the destination is a third party application;

selecting the third party application determined to be the destination of the message;

translating a calling convention of the message to a calling convention of the third party application determined to be the destination of the message; and

transmitting the message to the third party application determined to be the destination of the message.

2 (previously presented): The system of claim 1, wherein the receiving step comprises:
receiving a message from a client messaging application via the interface,
wherein the message includes a request for information.

3 (cancelled)

4 (previously presented): The system of claim 2, the first application further performing
the steps of:

receiving information from the third party application in a return message;
determining the destination of the return message, wherein the destination is a
client messaging application;
selecting the client messaging application determined to be the destination of the
message; and
transmitting the message to the client messaging application determined to be
the destination of the message.

5 (currently amended): The system of claim 4, further comprising the step of:

translating a calling convention of the return message to the calling convention of
~~enqueueing the message for transmission to~~ the client messaging application
determined to be the destination of the message.

6 (previously presented): The system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises:

an API for interfacing with a plurality of mutually registered client messaging
applications and for registering with at least one of the plurality of client messaging

applications.

7 (previously presented): The system of claim 4, wherein the first application further comprises:

an API for translating the request for information to the third party application and for translating the return message to the client messaging application.

8 (previously presented): The system of claim 1, wherein the client messaging application comprises an instant messaging application for sending and receiving instant messages.

9 (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the instant messaging application comprises any one of:

Lotus Sametime Messaging;

America Online Instant Messenger;

MSN Messenger Service;

Yahoo Messenger;

ICQ;

Jabber Instant Messaging; and

a Telnet utility.

10 (previously presented): The system of claim 1, wherein the third party application comprises a messaging server.

11 (previously presented): The system of claim 10, wherein the messaging server comprises any one of:

- an IBM MQSeries server;
- a Microsoft Transaction server;
- a Lotus Domino server; and
- an LDAP utility.

12 (previously presented): The system of claim 4, wherein the third party application retrieves the requested information from any one of:

- a personal finance database;
- a stock market database;
- a personal contact database;
- a web site;
- an FTP site; and
- a gopher site.

13 (currently amended): A system for transmitting messages from a client messaging application to a plurality of third party applications, the system comprising:

an interface to a mutually registered client messaging application, wherein the interface is mutually registered with the client messaging application; and

a first application for performing the steps of:

~~connecting with the interface, wherein the interface provides portability between the client messaging application and the first application;~~

receiving a message from the client messaging application via the

interface;

determining the destination of the message, wherein the destination is one of a plurality of third party applications;

selecting a third party application from the plurality of third party applications determined to be the destination of the message;

translating a calling convention of the message to a calling convention of the third party application so as to provide a level of abstraction between the interface and the plurality of third party applications; and

transmitting the message to the third party application determined to be the destination of the message.

14 (previously presented): The system of claim 13, wherein the receiving step comprises:

receiving a message from the client messaging application via the interface, wherein the message includes a request for information.

15 (cancelled)

16 (previously presented): The system of claim 13, the first application further performing the steps of:

receiving information from the third party application in a return message;

determining the destination of the return message, wherein the destination is the client messaging application;

selecting the client messaging application determined to be the destination of the message; and

transmitting the message to the client messaging application determined to be the destination of the message.

17 (currently amended): The system of claim 16, further comprising the step of:

translating a calling convention of the return message to the calling convention of
~~enqueuing the message for transmission to~~ the client messaging application
determined to be the destination of the message.

18 (previously presented): The system of claim 13, wherein the interface comprises:

an API for interfacing with the client messaging application and for registering with the plurality of client messaging application.

19 (previously presented): The system of claim 16, wherein the first application further comprises:

an API for translating the request for information to the third party application determined to be the destination of the message and for translating the return message to the client messaging application.

20 (previously presented): The system of claim 13, wherein the client messaging application comprises an instant messaging application for sending and receiving instant messages.

21 (previously presented): The system of claim 20, wherein the instant messaging application comprises any one of:

Lotus Sametime Messaging;
America Online Instant Messenger;
MSN Messenger Service;
Yahoo Messenger;
ICQ;
Jabber Instant Messaging; and
a Telnet utility.

22 (previously presented): The system of claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of third party applications comprise a messaging server.

23 (previously presented): The system of claim 22, wherein the messaging server comprises any one of:

an IBM MQSeries server;
a Microsoft Transaction server;
a Lotus Domino server; and
an LDAP utility.

24 (previously presented): The system of claim 16, wherein each of the plurality of third party applications retrieve the requested information from any one of:

a personal finance database;
a stock market database;
a personal contact database;
a web site;

an FTP site; and
a gopher site.

25 (currently amended): A system for transmitting messages from a plurality of client messaging applications to a plurality of third party applications, the system comprising:

an interface to a plurality of mutually registered client messaging applications, wherein the interface is mutually registered with at least one of the plurality of client messaging applications; and

a first application for performing the steps of:

~~connecting with the interface, wherein the interface provides portability between the plurality of client messaging applications and the first application;~~

receiving a message from [[a]] the at least one of the plurality of client messaging application applications via the interface;

determining the destination of the message, wherein the destination is one of a plurality of third party applications;

selecting one of a plurality of third party applications determined to be the destination of the message;

translating a calling convention of the message to a calling convention of the third party application determined to be the destination of the message so as to provide a level of abstraction between the interface and the plurality of third party applications; and

transmitting the message to the third party application determined to be the destination of the message.

26 (previously presented): The system of claim 25, wherein the receiving step comprises:

receiving a message from one of a plurality of client messaging applications via the interface, wherein the message includes a request for information.

27 (cancelled)

28 (previously presented): The system of claim 26, the first application further performing the steps of:

receiving information from the third party application in a return message;

determining the destination of the return message, wherein the destination is one of a plurality of client messaging applications;

selecting the client messaging application determined to be the destination of the message; and

transmitting the message to the client messaging application determined to be the destination of the message.

29 (currently amended): The system of claim 28, further comprising the step of:

translating a calling convention of the return message to the calling convention of
~~enqueueing the message for transmission to~~ the client messaging application
determined to be the destination of the message.

30 (previously presented): The system of claim 25, wherein the interface comprises:

an API for interfacing with a plurality of mutually registered client messaging applications and for registering with at least one of the plurality of client messaging

applications.

31 (previously presented): The system of claim 28, wherein the first application further comprises:

an API for translating the request for information to the third party application determined to be the destination of the message and for translating the return message to the client messaging application determined to be the destination of the message.

32 (previously presented): The system of claim 25, wherein each of the plurality of client messaging applications comprise an instant messaging application for sending and receiving instant messages.

33 (previously presented): The system of claim 32, wherein the instant messaging application comprises any one of:

- Lotus Sametime Messaging;
- America Online Instant Messenger;
- MSN Messenger Service;
- Yahoo Messenger;
- ICQ;
- Jabber Instant Messaging; and
- a Telnet utility.

34 (previously presented): The system of claim 25, wherein each of the plurality of third party applications comprise a messaging server.

35 (previously presented): The system of claim 34, wherein the messaging server comprises any one of:

- an IBM MQSeries server;
- a Microsoft Transaction server;
- a Lotus Domino server; and
- an LDAP utility.

36 (previously presented): The system of claim 28, wherein each of the plurality of third party applications retrieve the requested information from any one of:

- a personal finance database;
- a stock market database;
- a personal contact database;
- a web site;
- an FTP site; and
- a gopher site.

37 (currently amended): A method for transmitting messages from a client messaging application to a third party application, comprising the steps of:

- registering with at least one of a plurality of client messaging applications;
- receiving a message from one of ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of client messaging applications;
- determining the destination of the message, wherein the destination is a third party application;
- selecting the third party application determined to be the destination of the

message;

translating a calling convention of the message to a calling convention of the third party application determined to be the destination of the message; and

transmitting the message to the third party application determined to be the destination of the message.

38 (previously presented): The method of claim 37, wherein the receiving step comprises:

receiving a message from one of a plurality of client messaging applications, wherein the message includes a request for information.

39 (cancelled)

40 (previously presented): The method of claim 37, further comprising the steps of:

receiving information from the third party application in a return message;

determining the destination of the return message, wherein the destination is one of a plurality of client messaging applications;

selecting the client messaging application determined to be the destination of the message; and

transmitting the message to the client messaging application determined to be the destination of the message.

41 (currently amended): The method of claim 40, further comprising the step of:

translating a calling convention of the return message to the calling convention of
~~enqueueing the message for transmission to~~ the client messaging application

determined to be the destination of the message.

42 (previously presented): The method of claim 37, wherein the first receiving step comprises:

receiving, via an API, a message from one of a plurality of client messaging applications, wherein the API interfaces with the plurality of mutually registered client messaging applications and registers with at least one of the plurality of client messaging applications.

43 (currently amended): The method of claim 40, wherein ~~further comprising a step before the transmitting step of: the translation translating, is performed~~ by an API, ~~the request for information to the third party application.~~

44 (previously presented): The method of claim 43, further comprising a step before the second transmitting step of:

translating, by the API, the return message to the client messaging application.

45 (previously presented): The method of claim 37, wherein each of the plurality of client messaging applications comprise an instant messaging application for sending and receiving instant messages.

46 (previously presented): The method of claim 45, wherein the instant messaging application comprises any one of:

Lotus Sametime Messaging;

America Online Instant Messenger;
MSN Messenger Service;
Yahoo Messenger;
ICQ;
Jabber Instant Messaging; and
a Telnet utility.

47 (previously presented): The method of claim 37, wherein the third party application comprises a messaging server.

48 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, wherein the messaging server comprises any one of:

an IBM MQSeries server;
a Microsoft Transaction server;
a Lotus Domino server; and
an LDAP utility.

49 (previously presented): The method of claim 40, wherein the third party application retrieves the requested information from any one of:

a personal finance database;
a stock market database;
a personal contact database;
a web site;
an FTP site; and

a gopher site.

50 (currently amended): A method for transmitting messages from a client messaging application to a third party application, comprising the steps of:

registering with a client messaging application;

receiving a message from the client messaging application;

determining a the destination of the message, wherein the destination is one of a plurality of third party applications;

selecting the third party application determined to be the destination of the message;

translating a calling convention of the message to a calling convention of the third party application determined to be the destination of the message so as to provide a level of abstraction between the interface and the plurality of third party applications;
and

transmitting the message to the third party application determined to be the destination of the message.

51 (currently amended): A method for transmitting messages from a client messaging application to a third party application, comprising the steps of:

registering with at least one of a plurality of client messaging applications;

receiving a message from one of the [[a]] plurality of client messaging applications;

determining a the destination of the message, wherein the destination is one of a plurality of third party applications;

selecting the third party application determined to be the destination of the message;

translating a calling convention of the message to a calling convention of the third party application determined to be the destination of the message so as to provide a level of abstraction between the interface and the plurality of third party applications;
and

transmitting the message to the third party application determined to be the destination of the message.

52 (currently amended): A computer readable medium including computer instructions for transmitting messages from a plurality of client messaging applications to a third party application, the computer instructions comprising instructions for:

registering with at least one of a the plurality of client messaging applications;
receiving a message from one of the plurality of client messaging applications;
determining a the destination of the message, wherein the destination is a third party application;

selecting the third party application determined to be the destination of the message;

translating a calling convention of the message to a calling convention of the third party application determined to be the destination of the message; and

transmitting the message to the third party application determined to be the destination of the message.

53 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the

receiving instruction comprises:

receiving a message from one of the plurality of client messaging applications,
wherein the message includes a request for information.

54 (cancelled)

55 (currently amended): The computer readable medium of claim 53, further comprising instructions for:

receiving information from the third party application in a return message;
determining a the destination of the return message, wherein the destination is one of the plurality of client messaging applications;
selecting the client messaging application determined to be the destination of the message; and
transmitting the message to the client messaging application determined to be the destination of the message.

56 (currently amended): The computer readable medium of claim 55, further comprising the instruction of:

translating a calling convention of the return message to the calling convention of
~~enqueuing the message for transmission to~~ the client messaging application
determined to be the destination of the message.

57 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the first receiving step comprises:

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receiving, via an API, a message from one of a plurality of client messaging applications, wherein the API interfaces with the plurality of mutually registered client messaging applications and registers with at least one of the plurality of client messaging applications.

58 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of claim 55, ~~further comprising a step before the first transmitting step of:~~

wherein the translation is performed ~~translating, by an API, the request for information to the third party application.~~

59 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of claim 58, further comprising a step before the second transmitting step of:

translating, by the API, the return message to the client messaging application determined to be the destination of the message.

60 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the client messaging application comprises an instant messaging application for sending and receiving instant messages.

61 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of claim 60, wherein the instant messaging application comprises any one of:

Lotus Sametime Messaging;

America Online Instant Messenger;

MSN Messenger Service;

Yahoo Messenger;
ICQ;
Jabber Instant Messaging; and
a Telnet utility.

62 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the third party application comprises a messaging server.

63 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of claim 62, wherein the messaging server comprises any one of:

- an IBM MQSeries server;
- a Microsoft Transaction server;
- a Lotus Domino server; and
- an LDAP utility.

64 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of claim 55, wherein the third party application retrieves the requested information from any one of:

- a personal finance database;
- a stock market database;
- a personal contact database;
- a web site;
- an FTP site; and
- a gopher site.

65 (currently amended): A computer readable medium including computer instructions for transmitting messages from a client messaging application to a plurality of third party applications, the computer instructions comprising instructions for:

registering with a the client messaging application;

receiving a message from the client messaging application;

determining a the destination of the message, wherein the destination is one of the plurality of third party applications;

selecting the third party application determined to be the destination of the message;

translating a calling convention of the message to a calling convention of the third party application determined to be the destination of the message so as to provide a level of abstraction between the interface and the plurality of third party applications;
and

transmitting the message to the third party application determined to be the destination of the message.

66 (currently amended): A computer readable medium including computer instructions for transmitting messages from a plurality of client messaging applications to a plurality of third party applications, the computer instructions comprising instructions for:

registering with at least one of a the plurality of client messaging applications;

receiving a message from one of the plurality of client messaging applications;

determining a the destination of the message, wherein the destination is one of the plurality of third party applications;

selecting the third party application determined to be the destination of the message;

translating a calling convention of the message to a calling convention of the third party application determined to be the destination of the message so as to provide a level of abstraction between the interface and the plurality of third party applications;
and

transmitting the message to the third party application determined to be the destination of the message.

67 (currently amended): A method for providing access to a third party application via an instant messaging application, comprising the steps of:

registering with at least one of a plurality of instant messaging applications;

receiving from an instant messaging application an instant message including a request for information;

determining a ~~the~~ destination of the instant message, wherein the destination is a third party application;

selecting the third party application determined to be the destination of the message;

translating the request for information in the instant message into a request for information compatible with the third party application determined to be the destination of the instant message; and

transmitting the translated request for information to the third party application, wherein the third party application processes the translated request for information.

68 (cancelled)

69 (previously presented): The method of claim 67, wherein the receiving step comprises:

receiving from an instant messaging application an instant message including a request for information.

70 (previously presented): The method of claim 67, further comprising the steps of:

receiving information from the third party application;

generating an instant message including the received information; and

sending the generated instant message to the instant messaging application.